

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this Amendment, which amends claims 1-2, 7, 11, and 10-14, and adds new claims 15-17, claims 1-17 will be pending. In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Feibelman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,017, hereinafter referred to as "Feibelman"); and claims 6, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feibelman. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Objections to the Specification

The specification was objected to for not disclosing application and/or patent numbers for cross-references to related applications. In response, applicants have added the cross-references for the related applications.

Claims 1-13

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Feibelman.

Applicants submit that Feibelman does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 1, as amended. For example, Feibelman does not disclose:

assigning at least one of the plurality of loops to the user;

...

detecting a coupling of a user device to the destination terminus of the at least one loop;

detecting an address associated with the user device;

determining a path associated with the coupled user device, the path

including discovered loop component information;

matching the discovered loop component information with the loop component information specific to the user that is stored in the service record in the database;

providing the requested content via the determined path using the address associated with the user device upon matching the discovered loop component information with the loop component information specific to the user.

Feibelman discloses a customer order interface that works concurrently with a rule-based provisioning system and an order database to provision communication devices. In Feibelman, when an order request is received from a customer, the request is stored in the order database as a next due order. *See Feibelman*, col. 2, lines 17-26. When the due order is retrieved, a provisioning rule is also retrieved from the rule-based database and a provisioning script is executed to provision the communication device. *See Feibelman*, col. 2, lines 10-16.

Claim 1 recites detecting a coupling of a user device to the destination terminus of the at least one loop and detecting an address associated with the coupled user device. Nowhere in Feibelman is a coupling of the user device or an address associated with the coupled user device detected. In contrast, Feibelman discloses a customer order database that includes an order sequence. The order sequence is used to determine when to provision a service order. The order sequence can include an effective date for the order, immediate action or implementation of an order, a order handling scheme such as first-in-first out, ignore or hold types of order, move or jump ahead of other orders, a priority scheme or other ways to prioritize, handle, or perform order request. *See Feibelman*, col. 3 line 63 - col. 4, line 3. Accordingly, Feibelman includes an ordering scheme to provision a service order and Feibelman does not disclose or suggest detecting a coupling of a user device or an address associated with the coupled user device.

Additionally, claim 1 recites determining a path associated with the coupled user device, the path including discovered loop component information specific to the user. Information was stored in the database that included loop component information from the at least one loop assigned to the user. Once the user device is coupled to a loop, the content may then be delivered to the user. However, because the providing of content does not happen until a coupling of the user device is detected, a way of associating the service record stored in the database is desired. Claim 1 recites that the discovered loop component information is matched with the loop component information specific to the user that is stored in the service record in the database. Claim 1 then recites that the requested content is provided via the determined path using the address associated with the user device upon matching the discovered loop component information with the loop component information specific to the user.

In contrast, Feibelman stores the service order in an order sequence. When the service order is ready to be acted upon, Feibelman uses a set of rules to provision the service order. Specifically, a set of rules is queried by the transaction type and the rule retrieved determines the content and to what device to provide the content. *See Feibelman*, col. 4, lines 10-23. Applicants submit this does disclose or suggest the claimed matching step and providing the requested content upon the matching.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. Claims 2-13 depend from claim 1 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. These claims also recite additional novel and nonobvious features.

Claim 14

Applicants submit that the cited reference does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 14, as amended. Feibelman does not disclose or suggest assigning a port and a card to a user, matching the determined port and the card with the port and card associated with the content subscribed to by the user, and providing subscribed content via the at least one loop to the residential gateway substantially upon matching the determined port and the card with the port and card associated with the content subscribed to by the user.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 14.

New Claims 15-17

Applicants submit that the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of new claims 15-17. For example, the cited references do not disclose or suggest wherein the assigning of the network transport is performed before detecting the coupling of the user device and the providing of the requested content is performed after detecting the coupling of the user device. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request an indication of allowability for claims 15-17.

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Amdt. dated June 7, 2005
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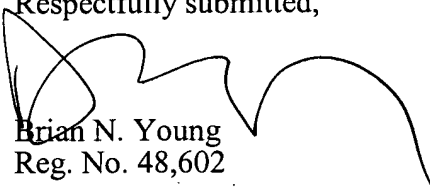
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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